

CONNECTICUT MARINE TRADES ASSOCIATION

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February 22, 2010

Environment Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: S.B. 124 AN ACT CONCERNING LONG ISLAND SOUND AND COASTAL PERMITTING.

Chairmen Meyer and Roy;

Distinguished Chairmen and Members of the Environment Committee, the Connecticut Marine Trades Association (CMTA) and their membership urge you to not support this complex bill. There are some necessary sections that would eliminate costly and outdated Boards and Commissions but there are parts that would damage businesses and activities in Connecticut as well.

Section One would require any one issued a permit by the Department of Environmental Protection to file a copy with the land records in the municipality where located. This is an additional unnecessary cost and record keeping burden on a permittee that serves little purpose. The DEP already has an existing procedure for filing Consent Orders on municipal land records and the department should be tasked with this process if deemed necessary. This section should be struck from the bill.

Section 7. Would eliminate the annual requirement of the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to produce and distribute a report to the legislature on the summarized activities and decisions impacting the Coastal Management Act. The importance of this act (22a-92 through 22a-111) on all waterfront properties, owners, and businesses warrant that the DEP Commissioner continue/resume an annual report.

We urge you to not support proposed S.B. 124 AN ACT CONCERNING LONG ISLAND SOUND AND COASTAL PERMITTING in its entirety and eliminate or strike Sections 1. and 7. as they are very impacting to the waterfront regulated community and important to understanding any annual changes. We would be pleased to discuss this at any time. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John S. Johnson
Legislative Chair

Grant W. Westerson
President